



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Weekly Weather Crop Report



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone: 601-965-4575
Facsimile: 601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov

Week ending September 7, 2008

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 1.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, September 7, 2008**. Excessive wind and rainfall due to Hurricane Gustav has delayed harvesting activities for corn, hay, rice, and sorghum in various areas. Some producers are reporting boll rot in cotton and disease problems in soybeans. Reports of increased insect problems in fields have surfaced. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent short, 36 percent adequate and 62 percent surplus.

Crop progress for week ending 09/07/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, dent	100	100	100	100
Corn, mature	97	93	100	98
Corn, harvested	41	35	81	76
Corn Silage, harvested	91	90	100	100
Cotton, open bolls	39	25	81	71
Hay-Warm Season, harvested	86	83	90	89
Rice, headed	97	95	100	100
Rice, mature	66	40	92	76
Rice, harvested	8	2	35	29
Sorghum, heading	100	100	100	100
Sorghum, coloring	96	95	100	100
Sorghum, mature	74	59	96	97
Sorghum, harvested	27	22	70	72
Sorghum, silage harvested	70	41	--	--
Soybeans, setting pods	100	99	100	100
Soybeans, turning color	67	59	88	86
Soybeans, dropping leaves	40	29	70	71
Soybeans, harvested	10	5	32	47
Sweet Potatoes, harvested	2	1	21	18

Crop condition for week ending 09/07/08

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	7	14	23	39	17
Cotton	6	8	24	43	19
Hay	2	6	35	33	24
Livestock	1	3	23	60	13
Pasture	0	3	44	44	9
Peanuts	0	0	6	66	28
Rice	0	3	12	47	38
Sorghum	1	4	17	51	27
Soybeans	5	11	30	39	15
Sweet Potatoes	0	0	10	80	10

Comments

“Areas of down rice along with wet field conditions have slowed down harvest.”

— Laura Giaccaglia, Bolivar

“Rain, rain go away - come again some other month.”

— Mack, Young Quitman

“We received some rain last week. No major problems have been found in fields.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Insect and disease problems are being encountered in soybean fields throughout the area. The soybean looper, green clover worms, and stinkbugs are the main insect pests. Some fields of grain sorghum have been treated for populations of earworms.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Rain continues to slow harvest activities. Wet conditions are causing serious deterioration to soybeans that are ready for harvest. Boll rot in cotton is continuing to develop. It is not yet serious, but it will become serious with more wet weather. So far, we have limited wet weather damage to corn. Corn yields are good but below last year's record yields.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“We received as average of 8 inches of rain from Gustav. We need a weather break to get some hay and corn harvested.”

— Chuck Grantham, Forrest

“Rains are keeping us out of the field. Crops need to be harvested and should get back in the field today. Insects have really picked up and growers are spraying.”

— Don Respass, Coahoma

“Tunica county producers need dry weather in order to harvest rice, corn, sorghum, and soybeans. Conditions are perfect for boll rot in cotton. August rains were a welcome sight, but too much of a good thing has turned into a bad thing.”

— Anthony Bland, Tunica

“Pod and seed rot is showing up in beans. One 200 acre block is probably an 80% loss. We need dry, sunny weather to dry things out.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Gustav stopped all hay harvesting for the past 7 days. Soils are recharged from recent rains. Producers are now waiting to begin planting cool season grasses and clovers.”

— Mike Howell, Lee

“Nothing but rain all week. There is some damage in heavy rainfall areas due to crops underwater.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“We may get a chance to harvest some corn if weather remains good through this next week. The harvest will be difficult in most cases since soils are saturated. Early maturing soybeans that are ready for harvest are rapidly deteriorating in fields now.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“The storm has halted all harvest activities. We had rainfall totals as high as 14 inches reported. The creeks were full and many roads were flooded. We hope to return to the fields this weekend if we can find some places dry enough to work in. There were many fields that went under water again. The yield losses are to be seen as we return to those fields. We are hoping for some dry weather so we can complete the corn harvest as we will begin harvesting some of the soybean crop shortly. Cotton is almost ready. The harvest of this crop is just around the corner as they say!! It will be here before we know it!!! WE DON'T NEED ANOTHER STORM !!!!!”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Rain from hurricane has greatly affected crops still in field. Corn was mostly harvested. Soybeans will be harmed due to shatter and lodging. Cotton is showing high degrees of rot and hard-lock. Some of the cotton damage was a result of extreme drought prior to rain that caused the bur to break down. Cotton regrowth is beginning, and that will make defoliation difficult. Forages should be alright but quality will drop due to delayed harvest. Rains will delay planting of cool-season forages.”

— Carolyn Conger, Convington

“Cotton is the most damaged at this time followed by soybeans resulting from wind and rain of Gustav. Most corn was harvested. Late planted cotton and soybeans will benefit from late season rains, but crops planted on time have suffered significantly. Cotton is showing much boll rot and hard lock. The rain compounded the problems in cotton resulting from the drought. Burs broke down from the drought and were finished off from the rains and wind. Soybeans will show shatter and lodging due to rains and wind. Quality of beans will be reduced. Hay was not affected, but the quality will be reduced due to delayed cutting. Rains will help pastures and re-supply moisture to soil profile and increase stands of cool season forages.”

— Randy Smith, Covington

“Measurable rainfall for the week has exceeded 8 inches in the county. Cropland in low areas and along creeks and stream are experiencing very soggy conditions with some areas having standing water. Rainfall this week has stopped producers from cutting and baling hay.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

(Additional comments appear at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>)

Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/07/08													
Division/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Plan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
Upper Delta													
Cleveland	93	63	76	79	-3	4.10	3.42	6	11.93				
Lambert	92	61	76			2.09	1.33	2	8.92				
Tunica	92	66	78	77	1	2.19	1.59	3	7.69				
Extreme/Average	93	61	77	78	-1	2.79	2.11	4	9.51				
North-Central													
Calhoun City	89	60	77	76	1	1.27	0.48	3	8.28				
Hickory Flat	92	57	75	75		1.28	0.37	5	5.30				
Independence	90	59	74	76	-2	1.60	0.82	3	5.75				
Oxford	92	59	77	76	1	1.05	0.21	2	6.17				
Extreme/Average	92	57	76	76		1.30	0.47	3	6.38				
Northeast													
Pontotoc	90	60	76	77	-1	0.91	0.00	3	9.18				
Ripley	90	57	75	75		0.29	-0.53	1	2.92				
Tupelo	90	68	78			0.87	0.00	2	6.38				
Verona	95	60	77	77		2.40	1.42	3	5.58				
Extreme/Average	95	57	77	76	1	1.12	0.03	2	6.02				
Lower Delta													
Moorhead	91	66	76	79	-3	3.37	2.68	4	8.37				
Rolling Fork	92	63	76	78	-2	10.32	9.69	3	22.81				
Stoneville	93	66	77	78	-1	10.27	9.62	4	14.29				
Yazoo City	92	63	77	79	-2	3.51	2.87	3	11.78				
Extreme/Average	93	63	77	79	-2	6.87	6.22	4	14.31				
Central													
Canton	90	60	76	79	-3	2.53	2.95	3	13.10				
Eupora	90	59	75	76	-1	1.83	-0.29	3	7.48				
Kosciusko	88	61	75	78	-3	2.53	1.73	4	11.15				
Winona	84	58	75	74	1	1.83	1.02	5	8.14				
Extreme/Average	90	58	75	77	-2	2.13	1.35	4	9.97				
East-Central													
Aberdeen	91	61	77	77		0.35	-0.44	3	4.74				
Macon	91	62	78	78	0	0.08	-0.78	2	4.08				
Philadelphia	94	71	81	78	3	2.55	1.78	4	12.83				
State University	91	62	77	77		0.67	-0.12	4	9.58				
Extreme/Average	94	61	78	78		0.91	0.11	3	7.81				
Southwest													
Crystal Springs	90	65	76	79	-3	6.37	5.35	4	21.06				
Natchez	90	64	75	79	-4	2.09	1.18	4	12.00				
Port Gibson	89	62	75	77	-2	8.98	8.21	4	20.40				
Extreme/Average	90	62	75	78	-3	5.81	4.91	4	17.82				
South-Central													
Collins	87	66	76	78	-2	5.10	4.12	4	12.86				
Columbia	94	69	80	79	1	4.77	3.76	5	10.70				
Monticello	93	69	79	79	0	3.51	2.60	4	10.54				
Extreme/Average	94	66	78	79	-1	4.46	3.49	4	11.37				
Southeast													
Hattiesburg	90	72	78	80	-2	5.86	4.81	4	11.13				
Laurel	89	67	78	79	-1	6.52	5.51	4	13.54				
Newton	90	68	77	77		3.85	3.01	4	12.88				
Extreme/Average	90	67	78	79	-1	5.41	4.44	4	12.52				
Coastal													
Extreme/Average													
State	95	57	77	78	-1	3.42	2.60	4	10.63				

DFN = Departure from Normal.